IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1.-94. (Cancelled)

95. (NEW) A method for identifying whether a compound inhibits cellular entry of a population of virus infecting a patient, comprising:

(a) contacting a population of virus with cells in the presence of the compound, wherein the cells express a cell surface receptor and/or co-receptor to which the population of virus binds, and wherein the population of virus comprise: (i) a viral expression vector that lacks a nucleic acid encoding a viral envelope protein and which comprises an indicator nucleic acid that produces a detectable signal, and (ii) a population of envelope proteins derived from the population of virus infecting the patient;

(b) measuring the amount of detectable signal produced by the cells;

(c) contacting the population of virus of step (a) with a second sample of cells, wherein the second sample of cells express a cell surface receptor and/or co-receptor which binds to the virus;

(d) measuring the amount of detectable signal produced by the second sample of cells in step (c) in order to determine the infectivity of the population of virus; and

(e) comparing the amount of signal measured in step (b) with the amount of signal measured in step (d), wherein a decrease in the amount of detectable signal indicates the compound inhibits cellular entry of the population of virus infecting the patient.

96. (NEW) The method of claim 95, wherein the population of envelope proteins is produced by co-transfecting into a cell (i) a population of envelope nucleic acids obtained from the population of virus infecting the patient, wherein the population of envelope nucleic acids encodes the patient population of envelope proteins and (ii) a viral expression vector lacking a nucleic acid encoding an envelope protein, wherein the vector comprises an indicator nucleic acid that produces a detectable signal.

97. (NEW) The method of claim 95, wherein steps (a) and (b) are repeated with varying concentrations of compounds and the amounts of signal generated for each of the concentrations are compared in step (c).

98. (NEW) The method of claim 97, further comprising generating a plot of viral infectivity based on compound concentrations.

99. (NEW) The method of claim 98, further comprising generating an IC50 from the plot.

100. (NEW) The method of claim 95, wherein the indicator nucleic acid comprises an indicator gene.

101. (NEW) The method of claim 100, wherein the indicator gene is a luciferase gene.

102. (NEW) The method of claim 95, wherein the virus is HIV-1.

103. (NEW) The method of claim 95, wherein the receptor is CD4.

104. (NEW) The method of claim 95, wherein the co-receptor is CXCR4 or CCR5.

105. (NEW) The method of claim 104, wherein the co-receptor is CXCR4.

106. (NEW) The method of claim 104, wherein the co-receptor is CCR5.

107. (NEW) The method of claim 96, wherein the envelope nucleic acids comprise nucleic acids that encode the envelope polyprotein (gp160).

108. (NEW) The method of claim 96, wherein the envelope nucleic acids comprise nucleic acids that encode the surface envelope protein (gp120) and the transmembrane envelope protein (gp41).

109. (NEW) The method of claim 95, wherein the viral expression vectors comprise an HIV nucleic acid.

110. (NEW) The method of claim 95, wherein the viral expression vectors comprise an HIV gag-pol gene.

111. (NEW) The method of claim 96, wherein the cells are mammalian.

112. (NEW) The method of claim 111, wherein the mammalian cells are human.

113. (NEW) The method of claim 112, wherein the human cells are human embryonic kidney cells.

114. (NEW) The method of claim 113, wherein the human embryonic kidney cells are 293 cells.

115. (NEW) The method of claim 112, wherein the human cells are human T cells.

116. (NEW) The method of claim 112, wherein the human cells are peripheral blood mononuclear cells.

117. (NEW) The method of claim 95, wherein the cells are astroglioma cells.

118. (NEW) The method of claim 117, wherein the astroglioma cells are U87 cells.

119. (NEW) The method of claim 95, wherein the cells are human osteosarcoma cells.

120. (NEW) The method of claim 119, wherein the osteosarcoma cells are HT4 cells.

121. (NEW) The method of claim 95, wherein the compound binds to the receptor or co-receptor.

122. (NEW) The method of claim 121, wherein the compounds binds the receptor CD4.

123. (NEW) The method of claim 121, wherein the compound binds the co-receptor CXCR4 or CCR5.

124. (NEW) The method of claim 123, wherein the compound binds the co-receptor CXCR4.

125. (NEW) The method of claim 123, wherein the compounds binds the co-receptor CCR5.

126. (NEW) The method of claim 95, wherein the compound comprises an antibody.

127. (NEW) The method of claim 95, wherein the compound is a ligand of the cell surface receptor.

128. (NEW) The method of claim 95, wherein the compound inhibits membrane fusion.

129. (NEW) The method of claim 95, wherein the compound is a peptide, a peptidomimetic, an organic molecule, or a synthetic compound.

130. (NEW) The method of claim 95, wherein the compound binds the viral envelope.